

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

FOR

1904.

Kidderminster :

PRINTED AT THE SHUTTLE OFFICE,
MCMV.

KIDDERMINSTER

Rural District Council.

COUNCILLOR H. A. WAKEMAN-NEWPORT, Esq.
(CHAIRMAN)

COUNCILLOR FRANK CORBETT (VICE-CHAIRMAN).

COUNCILLOR Rev. J. H. BOURNE.

„ JOHN COLLEDGE.
„ T. B. P. GRIFFIN.
„ THOMAS HINTON.
„ CAPT. S. H. HOBBS.
„ ERIC A. KNIGHT, Esq.
„ CHARLES LAWLEY.
„ CORDY MANBY, Esq.
„ THOMAS TIMMIS.
„ M. TOMKINSON, Esq.
„ CLAUDE S. TROW.
„ THOMAS WILSON.
„ Rev. W. WYKES-FINCH.

FREDK. BURCHER,
CLERK.

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ended December 31st, 1904.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The number of Births registered in the District during the year is 254, and the Birth-rate. 25·1.

The number of Deaths registered is 130, and the Death-rate 12·8.

Sickness :—74 cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified, 30 of them from the Kidderminster Foreign, 22 from the Wolverley district, 16 from the Chaddesley Corbett district, and 6 from the Arley district. The disease has been of a mild type, and all these cases have recovered, but the district has not been free for any considerable time during the year from this disease owing to its frequent importation from the Borough, and also to the fact that mild cases are sometimes overlooked, till infection has been spread.

Eight cases of Diphtheria have been notified, one from Kidderminster Foreign, two from the Wolverley district, one from the Wribbenhall district, and four from the Chaddesley Corbett district. In four of these cases (there were three of them in the same house) sanitary defects were found, and remedied after notice; one case was imported, and in the other three no cause for the attack could be discovered. All of them did well.

Ten cases of Erysipelas have been notified, none of Enteric Fever.

Whooping Cough was very prevalent in the early part of the year, especially in the neighbourhood of Hoobrook and Stone. Sixteen cases of Scarlet Fever have been removed into the Borough Infectious Hospital, nearly all of them because proper means of isolation could not be obtained at home. I visit all these cases myself and none are removed without my authority. The Inspector visits all cases of infectious disease on receipt of the notification, investigates their surroundings and reports fully to me. He also regularly acquaints me with all the other important details of his work as they arise.

Cases of Anthrax in cattle have occurred at Oldington, Sutton, Burlish, and near Hoarstone. In each instance I have satisfied myself on the spot that cremation was being efficiently performed, destruction of infected litter, thorough disinfection, lime washing of sheds, and where there had been any risk to milch cattle, I have advised the destruction of the milk for seven days. The occupiers have also been warned to watch the health of those people who have had anything to do with the carcasses. In no case has there been any extension of the disease.

There were also two cases of Anthrax in horses at Bromley, and one at Broom, in a pig. I have systematically visited the various portions of my district during the year, and in company with the Inspector, have made a house-to-house visitation at Cookley.

The following are some details in connection with my work.

My attention was called when at the Cinder-house, Wolverley, to the pump which the tenant stated was unuseable, he having to fetch water either from the brook (which is unfit for drinking), or from the top of the Workhouse bank. There was also no drainage for the area around the pump, where the surface water collected. I requested the Inspector to serve a notice to remedy these insanitary conditions, with the desired effect.

In February I visited Wribbenhall with the Inspector, to examine the area to the east of the Old Bridge Toll-house. The main drain there had been obstructed and an arrangement was made which appears to be satisfactory, for a new channel, which has been constructed, opening into the old outlet.

Having received complaints about the water supply at Spring Bank Cottage, Wribbenhall, I suggested to the tenant to get a sample analysed. This was done and the report stated that the water, though not very good, was free from sewage contamination and fit for drinking. I examined the surroundings of the well which were sanitary, and told the tenant that under the circumstances I could not condemn the well, and advised her to boil the water before drinking it.

Having been informed that a number of people in Blakebrook, suffering with sore throats, had been using milk supplied by a man in my district, I at once visited his premises, and also four farms from which he obtained his supplies, inspecting the cow-sheds, enquiring into the health of the cattle and of the persons who attended to them and had to do with the milk, also examining the water supply, and the arrangements for washing the cans and storing the milk. I could find nothing likely to give rise to the illness in question, and was subsequently informed by the milkman that three out of the four houses in Blakebrook referred to were not supplied at all by him.

About the same time sore throats became very prevalent in Manor Avenue, and there, on a house-to-house inspection, I found that the villas had been built with very inadequate provision for the disposal of their sewage. Many of the dumbwells had not been properly ventilated, and had no pump, and the soil-pipes in several instances were ventilated by pipes opening dangerously near to the bedroom windows.

The attention of the owners was called to these defects, and sanitary notices were served in several instances.

In July, I called the Inspector's attention to an accumulation of garbage, decomposing entrails, etc., on land near the Reservoir, on the side next the Sutton Park Road. This nuisance was abated on receipt of a Sanitary Notice at once.

August 2nd, I received notice from the Brierley Hill Sanitary Inspector that a woman, who had been in service in Wribbenhall till July 25th, had been on August 1st removed to the Small Pox Hospital, and that she had stated that a boy employed at the same house in Wribbenhall had been sent home ill a day or two before she had left. She had been only seven days at Wribbenhall, and before then had been in service in Blakebrook. I at once went to Wribbenhall and ascertained that no one was, or had been, recently ill at the house in question, and that the boy referred to, who lived in Bewdley, had been suffering from a lame foot.

I requested the Bewdley Medical Officer of Health to see this boy, as a precaution, and called upon the lady in Blakebrook, with whom the woman had lived before she went to Wribbenhall, but could ascertain nothing bearing upon the question, and I have since heard that the case turned out not to be Small Pox after all.

Having been informed by the Wolverley Schoolmaster that two children from the Sladd were absent on account of sore throat, and that the children sitting on each side of them in school had been attacked with Scarlet Fever, I visited the Sladd and found that both boys had the fever. As one of them had been to school for several days after the beginning of his illness, and several other cases from the school had been notified, I advised the closing of the school.

In November I received notice from St. George's Schoolmaster that two children from Broadwaters had been sent home with skins peeling, and every appearance of Scarlet Fever. The parents, when visited the same afternoon, stated that the medical man in attendance certified that they were suffering from Eczema, and not from Fever.

November 29th, I received a notification of Diphtheria—three cases in one house—in the Chaddeley Corbett district—and at my visit the same morning I found a defective and untrapped drain against the wall of the cottage, the sink untrapped, a foul midden, the wall at

the back of the house very damp, and a ditch containing stagnant water close to, and on a level with, the bottom of the shallow well. A notice was served to remedy these insanitary conditions, and was at once attended to.

About the same time I called the attention of the Inspector to a foul ditch at the Lowe, into which the drainage from the adjoining house was flowing, the smell from it being noticeable in and across the road.

December 6th, the tenant of Severn House having written complaining of offensive accumulations on the river side, I visited the locality and found that the accumulations did not, at that time, smell offensively, the weather being cool and the heap being principally composed of ashes; but there were road sweepings of leaves and horse manure, and a quantity of mud scrapings, which, with vegetable refuse, feathers, and hedge trimmings, would be likely to decompose, and cause a nuisance. I requested the Inspector to mention this matter to your Council, and also a somewhat similar condition, on a smaller scale, in Habberley Road. It is most desirable that a tip should be provided for the reception of such rubbish as cannot be destroyed or disposed of on the gardens.

The Bakehouses and Slaughterhouses in the district have been regularly visited, and found on the whole well kept.

Three cases of overcrowding have been dealt with, the occupants in each instance clearing out of the cottage on receipt of notice.

The supply of water in the district has been well maintained, and in each individual case where a defective supply was found the deficiency was rectified without judicial proceedings.

I have not had occasion to take any action in connection with the Factory and Workshop Act, and send you, as required by the Local Government Board, a table with particulars of inspections, notices, etc., from the Inspector of Nuisances. The schools at Hoobrook and Stone were closed in the early part of the year on account of Whooping Cough and Measles, the Chaddeley school, in June, on account of Scarlet Fever, and the Wolverley schools, in October and November, on account of Scarlet Fever.

The tenants at Somerleyton have continued to arrange for the disposal of their sewage, so that no complaint has arisen during the year, but in the Whitville and Sutton Common portions of the district there is pressing need for the provision of efficient means of drainage, which I trust you will arrange for with as little delay as possible. The district generally is, and has been during the year, with the exception of these portions, in a good sanitary condition.

I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

E. H. ADDENBROOKE.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1904, AND PREVIOUS YEARS.
KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number	Rate.*				Number	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894	9988	252	25.15	27	107.14	134	13.42	4	4	..	130	13.1
1895	9978	250	25.04	26	104	133	13.33	1	1	...	132	13.28
1896	10018	239	23.85	28	117.11	109	10.8	1	1	...	108	10.7
1897	10200	213	20.88	29	136.15	117	11.47	2	2	...	115	11.27
1898	10100	232	22.7	17	73.28	110	10.78	...	...	...	110	10.78
1899	10100	268	26.27	26	97.01	128	12.55	2	2	...	126	12.35
1900	10200	252	24.72	37	146.8	146	14.31	...	...	...	146	14.31
1901	10100	251	24.8	28	111.5	134	13.3	1	1	...	133	13.3
1902	10100	246	24.3	29	117.9	135	13.35	7	7	10	138	13.5
1903	10100	236	23.3	23	97.03	127	12.53	26	21	22	128	12.6
Averages for years												
1894-1903	10077.2	243.9	24.08	27	108	127.3	12.66	4.4	3.9	...	129.6	12.5
1904	10100	254	25.1	30	118.1	130	12.8	6	6	14	138	13.5

*Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13, calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 32,935.

Total population at all ages at Census of 1901, 10,111; Number of inhabited houses, 2260; Average number of persons per house, 4.47. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Kidderminster Infectious Hospital.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Kidderminster Union Workhouse, Kidderminster Infirmary and Children's Hospital.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? NO.

(TABLE II). VITAL STATISTICS of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

Kidderminster Rural District.

Names of Localities.	1 KIDDERMINSTER FOREIGN.				2 WOLVERLEY.				3 CHADDESLEY CORBETT.				4 WRIBBENHALL.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.
1894	a. 2831	b. 74	c. 34	d. 5	a. 2751	b. 74	c. 36	d. 11	a. 2289	b. 60	c. 33	d. 3	a. 2117	b. 44	c. 31	d. 8
1895	2831	79	45	6	2751	62	30	5	2279	56	39	8	2117	53	19	7
1896	2831	66	23	8	2751	66	30	11	2319	71	26	6	2117	56	30	3
1897	2831	84	33	6	2751	56	24	5	2334	59	38	16	2117	17	22	2
1898	2998	62	32	5	2751	52	30	6	2334	63	25	3	2117	55	23	3
1899	2998	70	36	7	2751	81	34	8	2334	75	30	6	2117	42	28	5
1900	2998	69	30	12	2751	69	51	11	2334	60	33	8	2117	54	32	6
1901	3064	83	33	10	2751	64	43	10	2209	56	30	7	2083	47	28	1
1902	3064	79	34	7	2755	62	28	6	2210	62	34	11	2083	43	39	5
1903	3060	63	33	6	2750	77	44	8	2210	54	28	3	2080	42	23	6
Averages of years 1894 to 1903.	2904	72.9	33.3	7.2	2751.7	66.3	35.0	8.1	2255.2	60.6	32.6	7.1	2106.5	45.3	27.5	4.6
1904	3060	77	42	8	2750	70	31	6	2210	57	33	14	2080	50	32	2

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.				No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.								
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	8	..	2	2	1	3	..	2	4	1	..	..	..	..
Membranous Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	10	..	1	..	1	7	..	2	3	2	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	74	..	13	54	3	4	30	22	16	6	9	4	2	1
Typhus Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	92	..	16	56	5	14	34	26	23	9	9	4	2	1

H.—Kidderminster Borough Infectious Hospital, Stourport Road, Kidderminster.

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

TABLE IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS," WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.							DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF "RESIDENTS" BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths, whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Kidderminster Foreign	Wolverley.	Chaddeley. Corbett.	Wibbenhall.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Whooping Cough ..	4	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..
Diarrhoea ..	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
Enteritis ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Erysipelas ..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	..
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	9	..	..	1	3	4	1	5	..	2	2	..
Other Tubercular Diseases	4	..	1	..	1	2	..	..	2	1	1	..
Cancer, Malignant disease	10	..	..	..	..	7	3	1	2	3	4	..
Bronchitis ..	7	2	1	..	..	..	4	1	1	3	2	..
Pneumonia ..	8	1	1	..	..	3	3	4	..	2	2	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver) ..	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	2	..	..	..
{ Congenital Debility	14	14	..	..	..	..	..	6	3	5	..	..
{ Premature Birth												
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Heart Diseases	13	..	..	..	..	7	6	3	6	2	2	..
Accidents ..	7	..	1	2	..	2	2	3	2	..	2	..
Suicides ..	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..
All other causes	46	5	1	..	2	9	29	13	10	9	14	..
All causes ..	138	30	8	4	6	40	50	42	31	33	32	6

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORK-PLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspector of Nuisances.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	INSPECTIONS.	WRITTEN NOTICES.	PROSECUTIONS.
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	12 No Factory Laundries	1	None
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	40	None	"
Workplaces	1	"	"
Homeworkers' Premises ..	None	"	"
TOTAL	53	1	None

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS.
	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	None	None	None	None
Sanitary accommodations { insufficient .. .. .	..	..	..	..
{ unsuitable or defective .. .. .	..	..	..	..
{ not separate for sexes	1	1	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factories and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse ..	None	None	None	..
TOTAL	1	1	..	..

3—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories—*None*.

Underground Bakehouses—*None*.

Lists of Outworkers Received—*None*.

Addresses of Outworkers received from other Authorities—*Two*.

Notices prohibiting Homework in Unwholesome Premises—*None*.

Workshops on the Register at the end of 1904 : Bootmakers, 4 ; Hairdresser, 1 ; Tailors, 3 ; Wheelwrights, 4 ; Blacksmiths, 13 ; Builders, 3 ; Printer, 1 ; Painter, 1 ; Carpenter and Coffin Makers, 4 ; Grinders, 2 ; Coal Worker, 1 ; Cycle Works, 3 ; Dressmaker, 3 ; Laundries, 4 ; Rope Works, 1 ; Chemist, 1 ; Photographer, 1—*Total, 50*.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

KIDDERMINSTER,

JANUARY 24th, 1905.

To the Chairman and Members of the Kidderminster Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg leave to present you with my Twentieth Annual Report, for the year ending December 31st, 1904.

The number of Notices served was 291, as against 240 last year, increase 51. The notices related to 189 nuisances, as against 135 last year ; increase 54.

Of the 189 nuisances dealt with 180 have been abated, leaving nine outstanding.

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Foul and offensive privy ashpits ...	...	...	72
Foul tubs of wash ...	...	...	2
Filthy or unwholesome dwelling houses ...	...	...	22
Foul or overflowing dumbwells ...	...	...	9
Defective sink drains ...	...	...	4
The want of a proper water supply ...	...	...	5
Choked or offensive drains ...	...	...	17
Foul and offensive swine ...	...	...	11
Dilapidated privy ashpit roof ...	...	...	1
Defective covering of well ...	...	...	1
Accumulations ...	...	...	9
Foul cesspits ...	...	...	3
Dilapidated cottages ...	...	...	3
Defective dumbwells ...	...	...	14
Dilapidated privy ashpits ...	...	...	4
Defective water closet ...	...	...	1
Defective dumbwell pump ...	...	...	1
Defective soft water cistern ...	...	...	1
Overcrowding cases ...	...	...	3
Offensive pail or pan closets ...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous nuisances ...	...	...	3
New pail or pan closets at factory ...	...	...	1
Total ...	...	...	189

THE INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATION ACT, 1889.

Under this Act certificates have been received from the Medical Officer of Health relating to the following cases, which total 92, as against 119 last year; decrease 27.

In the CHADDESLEY CORBETT District (comprising the Parishes of Chaddesley Corbett, Stone, Broom, and Rushock):

Scarlet Fever	...16;	last year...	26;	decrease...	10
Erysipelas	... 3;	„	... 3;	the same	
Diphtheria	... 4;	„	... 1;	increase...	3
<hr/>					
Total	...23;	„	...30;	decrease...	7

The 16 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred as follows:—Mann, Bluntington, 1; Pardoe, Shut Hill, 1; Johnson, Cakebole, 1; Crouch 1, Fitch 2, Hayward, 3—Chaddesley Village; Monk 1, Evans 1, Green 1, Grove 2—Harvington; Watson, Red Cross, 2. The three cases of Erysipelas occurred as follows:—Pardoe, Dorhall, 1; Ashton, Stone, 1; Rudd, Drayton, 1. The four cases of Diphtheria were:—Sayers, Brockencote, 1; Jones, Stanklyn, Stone, 3. No Infectious Disease reported from Broom or Rushock Parish.

The WRIBBENHALL District (comprising Ribbesford, Dowles, Upper Arley, and Wribbenhall):—

Scarlet Fever	... 6;	last year...	10;	decrease...	4
Erysipelas	... 2;	„	... 2;	the same	
Diphtheria	... 1;	„	... 0;	increase ...	1
<hr/>					
Total	...9;	„	...12;	decrease...	3

The two Erysipelas cases were:—Steward, Upper Arley, 1; Hopkins, Ribbesford Farm, 1. The Diphtheria case was:—Ayers, The Crundalls Farm. The six cases of Scarlet Fever occurred as follows:—Scott, Bank Farm, Upper Arley, 1; Thomason, Keeper's Lodge, Ribbesford, 2; Bevan, Wribbenhall, 1; Oakes, Wribbenhall, 1; Lloyd, Wassall Lodge, 1.

The WOLVERLEY District (comprising the Parishes of Wolverley and Churchill):—

Scarlet Fever	...22;	last year ...	11:	increase ...	11
Erysipelas	... 2;	„	... 2;	the same	
Diphtheria	... 2;	„	... 1:	increase ...	1
<hr/>					
Total	...26;	„	...14;	increase ...	12

The two cases of Diphtheria occurred at the Vicarage, Wolverley. The two cases of Erysipelas were:—Mr. Evans' child, the village, Wolverley; T. Cartwright, The Gardens, Cookley. The

22 cases of Scarlet Fever were as follows:—Clee, Island Pool, 2; Williams, Alfred Place, 2; Cartwright, The Gardens, Cookley, 2; Bird, Foundry Bank, 1; Ralphs, White's Buildings, Cookley, 1; Hardwicke, Pit Street, Broadwaters, 1; Morris, Manor House Lodge, Wolverley, 1; Jester, Drakelow, 1; Lea, Fairfield, 1; Hopcroft, The Shop, Wolverley, 1; Middleton, Blakeshall, 3; Parton, The Sladd, 2; Melville, Vicarage, 1; Addleton, Lock Cottages, 3.

THE FOREIGN OF KIDDERMINSTER:—

Scarlet Fever	...30;	last year...56;	decrease...26
Erysipelas	... 3;	„ ... 5;	decrease... 2
Diphtheria	... 1;	„ ... 0;	increase ... 1
Enteric	... 0;	„ ... 2;	decrease... 2
<hr/>			
Total	...34;	„ ...63;	decrease...29

The 30 cases of Scarlet Fever were as follows:—Davies, Marlpool Lane, 1; Thomas, Oldington, 1; Smith, Lea Bank Avenue, 2; Bradley, Hemming Street, 3; Prosser, Smith Buildings, Spencer Street, 1; Taylor, Spencer Street, 1; Edwards, Hoobrook, 1; Sherry, Hoobrook, 1; Skelton, Hemming Street, 1; Kennedy, Foley Park, 2; Smith, Blakebrook Farm, 1; Willetts, Manor House, Habberley, 1; Oakes, Habberley Valley, 1; Smith, Sutton Road, 1; Jones, Spencer Street, 1; Fisher, Spencer Street, 1; Price, Stourport Road, 1; Styles, Foley Park, 1; Hardiman, Foley Park, 1; Davies, Franche, 1; Tanner, Spencer Street, 1; Hill, Hoobrook, 1; Crisp, Foley Park, 1; Hardiman, Foley Park, 1; Whatmore, Honeybrook, 1; Hayward, Green Bank, Franche Road, 1. The three cases of Erysipelas were as follows:—Gittings, Comberton Road, 1; Whittall, Manor Avenue, Habberley Road 1; Rowley, Oldington Lane, 1. One case of Diphtheria at White Cottage, Habberley Valley, Oakes.

SUMMARY OF FEVER CASES:—

Scarlet Fever	...74;	last year...103;	decrease...29
Erysipelas	...10;	„ ... 12;	decrease... 2
Diphtheria	... 8;	„ ... 2;	increase ... 6
Enteric	... 0;	„ ... 2;	decrease... 2
<hr/>			
Total	...92;	„ ...119;	decrease...27

THE WATER SUPPLY OF THE DISTRICT.

On the whole the Water Supply of the District has been well maintained.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH WATER ACT.

Under sec. 6, chap. 25, of the above Act, four notices were served, and two water certificates granted by Council for one dwelling house at Lower Chaddesley, and for four dwelling houses Spencer Avenue, Wribbenhall, the other two are still in hand. Thirty-six houses have been or are still in course of erection in the district, viz.:—14 Foley Park, 1 Shenstone, Stone Parish, 1 Lower Chaddesley, 6 Wribbenhall, 2 Franche, 1 Habberley Road, 6 Hill Grove Estate, 1 Wolverley, 4 Sutton Park Road. Twenty-four of these have the town water laid on from the Borough of Kidderminster.

DISINFECTION.

In all cases of Fever a plentiful supply of disinfectants is given, fumigation, cleansing and whitewashing done, and reports of each case on its merits sent to the Medical Officer of Health.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

These have had my surveillance from time to time. Cleansing and whitewashing have been done and found satisfactory, except in three instances, which were remedied. Four persons have been placed on the Register during this last year.

BAKEHOUSES AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

These have been regularly inspected, and kept on the whole in a satisfactory condition, cleansing and whitewashing being done regularly, and in some instances improvements made in ventilation and light, and one new Bakehouse has been erected. There are no underground Bakehouses in this district.

SYSTEMATIC INSPECTION.

This is regularly done in all parts of the district.

CANAL BOATS ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

Number of Boats inspected, 106; last year 108: decrease 2.

„ visits to the Canal, 66.

„ visits and saw no Boats, 14.

„ Boats conforming to Acts and Regulations, 98.

„ „ with one or more infringements, 8.

„ „ left outstanding from last year, 0.

All the infringements have been remedied, and certificates granted by other Canal Boat Inspectors, leaving none outstanding.

Total number of persons found on these Boats, males 251, females 8, and children 8.

I again testify, as I did last year, to the general improvement and good condition of the Boats coming under my inspection, and to the fact that only eight infringements were found.

THE BOROUGH INFECTIOUS HOSPITAL.

Cases removed into the Hospital 16, as against 56 last year, decrease 40.

Nine of the cases were from the Foreign of Kidderminster; 1 Wribbenhall; 2 Red Cross, Chaddesley; and 4 the Parish of Wolverley. The 9 from the Foreign were as follows:—Sherry, Hoobrook, 1; Smith, Blakebrook Farm, 1; Oakes, Habberley Valley, 1; Jones, Spencer Street, 1; Fisher, Spencer Street, 1; Hardiman, Foley Park, 2; Hill, Hoobrook, 1; Crisp, Foley Park, 1. The case at Wribbenhall was that of Oakes, Coach and Horses Inn. The cases at Red Cross, Chaddesley Parish, were Watson, 2. The four Wolverley Parish cases were:—Cartwright, The Gardens, Cookley, 1; Bird, Foundry Bank, Cookley, 1; Hopcroft, The Shop, Wolverley, 1; Middleton, Blakeshall, 1.

BYE-LAWS RELATING TO NUISANCES.

Two breaches of these bye-laws came under my notice, which were duly reported to the Council and remedied.

CLOSING OF SCHOOLS.

Hoobrook Infant School closed for 14 days from the 25th of January, 1904, through the prevalence of Whooping Cough. Stone School closed for one month from the 2nd of February through the prevalence of Whooping Cough; and a further closing for 17 days from the 7th of March. Harvington Roman Catholic School, Chaddesley Parish, closed for 27 days, to Monday, July 4th, through the prevalence of Scarlet Fever in the neighbourhood. Wolverley Infant School closed for 21 days from the 20th of October, through Scarlet Fever. Wolverley Mixed School closed for 14 days from 10th of November; also a closing of the Infant Department for a further period of seven days from the 17th of November.

CASES OF ANTHRAX.

Several cases of Anthrax amongst cattle were reported. Every precaution was taken to prevent the disease spreading, the carcasses burnt, and the premises whitewashed and disinfected.

SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

Special Inspections were made in company with the Medical Officer of Health, the Chairman, and Dr. Fosbroke, County

Medical Officer of Health, to defective Drainage in Wribbenhall on March 18th; and at Manor Avenue on April 26th, in company with the Medical Officer of Health; and Cookley Village House to House Inspections, March 4th and 11th, May 2nd, and July 5th.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Workshops under inspection :—Bootmakers', 4; Hairdressers', 1; Tailors', 3; Wheelwrights', 4; Blacksmiths', 13; Builders', 3; Painters', 1; Printers', 1; Carpenters' and Coffin Makers', 4; Grinders', 2; Coal Workers', 1; Cycle Makers', 3; Dressmakers', 3; Laundries, 4; Rope and Twine Works, 1; Glovers', 1; Photographers', 1; total, 50.

There are three factories. One factory employs over 100 hands, and has proper and efficient means of escape from fire.

There are six domestic workshops.

No action has been taken before justices.

One factory was found to be insufficiently provided with proper closet accommodation, and notice having been served on the principal and the matter reported to the Council, this was remedied.

CORRESPONDENCE, &c.

Upwards of fifty special letters have been written with reference to Scarlet Fever and Nuisances during the year. Of the cases of Nuisance all have been abated without any proceedings before justices, except nine outstanding.

Trusting that in my capacity as your Inspector of Nuisances I have given you satisfaction, and thanking you for your kind support in the discharge of my duties,

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES STEADMAN,

Inspector of Nuisances.

